

## Message Text

PAGE 01 STATE 211056

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ORIGIN EUR-03

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /004 R

66650

DRAFTED BY: EUR/RPE:DHSWARTZ

APPROVED BY:EUR/RPE:DHSWARTZ

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R 051458Z SEP 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 211056

FOLLOWING TEL SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO BERN BONN PARIS  
PRETORIA IAEA VIENNA FROM THE HAGUE DTG 021610Z SEP 75 RPTD  
TO YOU.

QUOTE:

C O N F I D E N T I A L THE HAGUE 4431

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, TECH, NL

SUBJECT: PROPOSED US-DUTCH-SWISS SALE OF NUCLEAR REACTORS TO  
SOUTH AFRICA

REF: HAGUE 4120, 4161, 4247

1. SUMMARY: NETHERLANDS' GOVERNMENT HAS DECIDED TO  
POSTPONE DECISION ON SALE OF REACTOR VESSELS FOR PROPOSED  
SOUTH AFRICAN NUCLEAR PLANT UNTIL IT HAS BETTER  
KNOWLEDGE OF HOW AND WHEN US GOVERNMENT WILL ACT ON EXIM  
LOAN FOR PLANT'S GE REACTORS. END SUMMARY.

GWM FOLLOWING UP ON EARLIER CALLS, WE MET AUUST 29  
WITH FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIAL WHO IS COORDINATING  
GON ACTIVITIES WITH REGARD TO PROPOSED SALE OF  
REACTOR VESSELS TO SOUTH AFRICA. VAN VLIET SAID  
THAT CABINET HAD NOT TAKEN UP THE MATTER AT ITS  
AUGUST 22 MEETING,  
ND HAS INDEFINITELY POSTPONED  
CONSIDERATION UNTIL IT HAS BETTER INFORMATION ON US  
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PAGE 02 STATE 211056

MOVES.

3. WHAT DUTCH MUST DECIDE IS WHETHER 1) TO PROVIDE  
LOAN GUARANTEE COVERING CONSTRUCTION AND SALE OF TWO

REACTOR VESSELS BY RIJN-SCHELDE-VEROLME, AND 2) TO GRANT AN EXPORT LICENSE FOR THESE VESSELS.

4. FIRST ACTION IS RESPONSIBILITY OF MINISTRY OF FINANCE. IN ALL OTHER CREDIT APPLICATIONS, FIANCE IS CHARGED WITH DECIDING ONLY ON BASIS OF RISK THAT REPAYMENT ON LOAN WOULD BE DEFAULTED OR THAT PROPERTY COVERED WOULD BE NATIONALIZED. IN SEPTEMBER 1974, FOREIGN MINISTER VAN DER STOEL, FORMALLY RESPONDNG TO WRITTEN QUESTIONS BY SECOND CHAMBER MEMBER COPPES, IMPOSED CONDITION THAT IN CASE OF SOUTH AFRICA CREDIT WOULD ONLY BE EXTENDED IF PROJECT TO BE FINANCED WOULD NOT PROMOTE APARTHEID. SINCE IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO ARGUE THAT CONSTRUCTION OF NUCLEAR POWER PLANT AIDED RACIAL SEPARATIST POLICIES, VAN DER STOEL'S GLOSS DOES NOT EFFECTIVELY ALTER FIANCE MINISTRY'S BASIC INSTRUCTIONS. VAN VLIET SAID THAT CABINET, THEREFORE, COULD NOT STOP FIANCE FROM APPROVING CREDIT IF IT DETERMINED IT WAS SAFE RISK.

5. SECOND ACTION IS RESPONSIBILITY OF FOREIGN MINISTER VAN DER STOEL. HE IS INCLIED TO APPROVE THE EXPORT LICENSE, OUT NOT SO LONG AS DUTCH GOVERNMENT IS UNSURE OF USG POSITION, SINCE GE IS BIGGEST PARTNER IN THE CONSORTIUM AND ACTIONS BY U SIDE ARE OF PARAMOUNT IMPORTANCE.

6. NETHERLANDS' GOVERNMENT WANTS TO KNOWN THEREFORE, WHAT PROCDURE IS INVOLVED IN US EXECUTIVE'S OBTAINING CONGRESSIONAL APPROVAL OF EXIM LAON. WHEN WILL PROCESS BE INITIATED? HOW LONG WILL IT TAKE? WHAT IS LIKELY OUTCOME?

7. ACTION REQUESTED: WHILE DUTCH PLAN TO FOLLOW US MOVES THROUGH THEIR EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON, WE CAN GIVE PROJECT A PUSH HERE IF DEPARTMENT WILL GIVE US ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS POSED IN PARAGRAPH 6.  
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PAGE 03 STATE 211056

8. COMMENT: WE THINK MEANINGFUL DUTCH MOVE IS IMPROBABLE BEFORE THEY OBTAIN ANSWERS TO THESE QUESTIONS.  
BROWN UNQUOTE  
ROBINSON

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<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 26 AUG 1999  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** SALES, NUCLEAR REACTORS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 05 SEP 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** buchandr  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975STATE211056  
**Document Source:** ADS  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** EUR/RPE:DHSWARTZ  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** 11652 GDS  
**Errors:** n/a  
**Film Number:** D750308-1112  
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**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, TEXT ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ORIGIN EUR  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** buchandr  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 08 APR 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <08 APR 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <20 OCT 2003 by buchandr>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
06 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** n/a  
**TAGS:** PARM, TECH, NL, SF  
**To:** EC BRUSSELS  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006